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Message Text

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ORIGIN USIA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 SS-15
NSC-05 /056 R

DRAFTED BY USIA/IEU:JWSHIRLEY:ACH
APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN
USIA/I:JREINHARDT (BY PHONE)
EUR/SOV - MGARRISON
USIA/IBS:HTUCH (BY PHONE)
----------190618Z 004125 /15
P 190225Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061257

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: VOA BROADCASTS TO THE USSR
-
REF: MOSCOW 3341-C

1. USIA AND DEPARTMENT ARE CONCERNED THAT EMBASSY FINDS THAT VOA'S APPROACH HAS "CHANGED NOTICEABLY IN RECENT WEEKS."

2. IF EMBASSY'S CONCLUSION IS BASED SOLELY ON FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY HEAVIER COVERAGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS STORIES, THE EXPLANATION IS STRAIGHTFORWARD: HEAVIER COVERAGE REFLECTS BOTH THE ADMINISTRATION'S AND U.S. PUBLIC'S FOCUS ON THE ISSUE. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE NEW HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIS, ESPECIALLY AS IT AFFECTS U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS HAS GENERATED LIVELY AND VOCAL DEBATE.
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MEDIA COVERAGE, BOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD, HAS BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY HEAVY. VOA HAS, OF COURSE, REPORTED THE STATEMENTS THAT HAVE EMANATED FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES AND THE SUBSEQUENT DEBATE IN THE PRESS. THIS THE VOA HAS A CLEAR MANDATE TO DO; IT REPORTS THE NEWS AS IT OCCURS AND TELLS ITS LISTENERS HOW PUBLIC OPINION REACTS TO IT, LARGELY AS REFLECTED IN DOMESTIC US AND FOREIGN MEDIA.

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3. IF, ON OTHER HAND, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT, APART FROM INCREASED VOLUME OF COVERAGE, TONE AND APPROACH HAVE CHANGED AND THAT GUIDELINES ARE BEING IGNORED, WE NEED EXAMPLES OF MATERIALS EMBASSY FINDS OBJECTIONABLE AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE. SINCE REFTEL SUGGESTS THAT PART OF PROBLEM MAY BE MANNER IN WHICH SOME PROGRAMS ARE VOICED, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE YOUR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THAT ASPECT OF SITUATION AS WELL.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, EMBASSY SHOULD KNOW THAT BROADCASTS TO THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN UNDER PARTICULARLY CLOSE SCRUTINY IN RECENT WEEKS. INDEED, EVERY EFFORT WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE TO HANDLE HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER SENSITIVE STORIES IN ACCURATE AND BALANCED FASHION. IN THIS REGARD, REFTEL, AS WELL AS EMBASSY'S EARLIER COMMUNICATIONS, ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIO BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE061257
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWSHIRLEY:ACH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770094-0588
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770342/aaaabkmy.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN USIA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 3341
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3058058
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VOA BROADCASTS TO THE USSR -
TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, UR, US, VOA
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a985cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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